

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims replaces and supersedes all prior listings of claims in the application.

#### **Listing of claims:**

Claims 1-13 (Cancelled).

Claim 14 (Currently amended): A cosmetic composition containing at least one branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin, or hydrogenated branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin, characterized in that wherein the side chains, at one branch point at least, are ethyl, propyl or longer branched alkyl chains, the said branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin being obtainable obtained by oligomerization of at least one of:

- a) at least one branched  $\alpha$ -olefin containing 5 to 18 carbon atoms, or
- ~~b) at least one linear  $\alpha$ -olefin containing 4 to 10 carbon atoms,~~
- ~~[[c]]b)~~ a mixture of a branched  $\alpha$ -olefin containing 4 to 18 carbon atoms and a linear  $\alpha$ -olefin containing 3 to 18 carbon atoms, and or
- ~~[[d]]c)~~ a mixture of various branched  $\alpha$ -olefins containing 4 to 18 carbon atoms and linear  $\alpha$ -olefins containing 3 to 18 carbon atoms,

in the presence of a catalyst selected from the group consisting of organic acids, cationic ion exchangers, silica gels, layer silicates, inorganic acids [[or]] and Lewis-acid-based catalysts,

wherein said branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin or hydrogenated branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin is incorporated in a cosmetic composition.

Claim 15 (Currently amended): The cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein the said branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin or hydrogenated branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin comprises a total of 12 to 36 carbon atoms.

Claim 16 (Currently amended): The cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein the said branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin or hydrogenated branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin comprises a total of 14 to 24 carbon atoms.

Claim 17 (Cancelled):

Claim 18 (Currently amended): The cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein a mixture ([c][b]) of a branched  $\alpha$ -olefin containing 5 to 12 carbon atoms and a linear  $\alpha$ -olefin containing 3 to 12 carbon atoms is oligomerized in the presence of a catalyst selected from the group consisting of organic acids, cationic ion exchangers, silica gels, layer silicates, inorganic acids [[or]] and Lewis-acid-based catalysts.

Claim 19 (Currently amended): The cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein [[the]] said linear  $\alpha$ -olefin is selected from the group consisting of 1-propene, 1-butene, [[2-butene,]] and 1-pentene and 2-pentene.

Claim 20 (Currently amended): The cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein [[the]] said branched  $\alpha$ -olefin is selected from the group consisting of 2-ethyl-1-hexene, 2-propyl-1-heptene, 2-methyl-1-butene, 2-methyl-1-pentene, 3-methyl-1-pentene [[or]] and 4-methyl-1-pentene.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): The cosmetic composition according to claim [[19]] 14, wherein [[the]] said branched  $\alpha$ -olefin is selected from the group consisting of 2-ethyl-1-hexene, 2-propyl-1-heptene, 2-methyl-1-butene, 2-methyl-1-pentene, 3-methyl-1-pentene [[or]] and 4-methyl-1-pentene, and wherein said linear  $\alpha$ -olefin is selected from the group consisting of 1-propene, 1-butene, and 1-pentene.

Claim 22 (Currently amended): The cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein a mixture of 80% butene and 20% isobutene is oligomerized in the

presence of a catalyst selected from the group of organic acids, cationic ion exchangers, silica gels, layer silicates, inorganic acids [[or]] and Lewis-acid-based catalysts.

Claim 23 (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition according to claim 14, in the form of a w/o or o/w emulsion.

Claim 24 (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition according to claim 14, comprising 0.1 to 100% by weight of oil components, based on the total quantity of oil components inclusive of the at least one oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin.

Claim 25 (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition according to claim 14, comprising 1 to 50% by weight of oil components, based on the total quantity of oil components inclusive of the at least one oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin.

Claim 26 (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition according to claim 14, further comprising 0.1 to 20% by weight of a surface-active substance or a mixture of surface-active substances.

Claim 27 (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition according to claim 14, further comprising at least one antiperspirant and/or deodorant active principle.

Claim 28 (Currently amended): An antiperspirant or deodorant composition comprising:

(i) at least one branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin, or hydrogenated branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin, characterized in that wherein the side chains, at one branch point at least, are ethyl, propyl or longer branched alkyl chains, the said branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin being obtainable obtained by oligomerization of at least one of:

- a) at least one branched  $\alpha$ -olefin containing 5 to 18 carbon atoms, or
- b) ~~at least one linear  $\alpha$ -olefin containing 4 to 10 carbon atoms,~~

- [[c]]b) a mixture of a branched α-olefin containing 4 to 18 carbon atoms and a linear α-olefin containing 3 to 18 carbon atoms, and or
- [[d]]c) a mixture of various branched α-olefins containing 4 to 18 carbon atoms and linear α-olefins containing 3 to 18 carbon atoms, in the presence of a catalyst selected from the group consisting of organic acids, cationic ion exchangers, silica gels, layer silicates, inorganic acids [[or]] and Lewis-acid-based catalysts, and
- (ii) at least one antiperspirant or deodorant active principle.

Claim 29 (Currently amended): The antiperspirant or deodorant composition according to claim 28, wherein the said branched oligo-α-olefin or hydrogenated branched oligo-α-olefin comprises a total of 12 to 36 carbon atoms.

Claim 30 (Cancelled):

Claim 31 (Currently amended): The antiperspirant or deodorant composition according to claim 28, wherein a mixture ([[c]]b) of a branched α-olefin containing 5 to 12 carbon atoms and a linear α-olefin containing 3 to 12 carbon atoms is oligomerized in the presence of a catalyst selected from the group consisting of organic acids, cationic ion exchangers, silica gels, layer silicates, inorganic acids [[or]] and Lewis-acid-based catalysts.

Claim 32 (Currently amended): The antiperspirant or deodorant composition according to claim 28, wherein the said linear α-olefin is selected from the group consisting of 1-propene, 1-butene, [[2-butene,]] and 1-pentene and 2-pentene, and the said branched α-olefin is selected from the group consisting of 2-ethyl-1-hexene, 2-propyl-1-heptene, 2-methyl-1-butene, 2-methyl-1-pentene, 3-methyl-1-pentene [[or]] and 4-methyl-1-pentene.

Claim 33 (Cancelled):

Claim 34 (Previously presented): The antiperspirant or deodorant composition according to claim 28, in the form of a w/o or o/w emulsion.

Claim 35 (Previously presented): The antiperspirant or deodorant composition according to claim 28, further comprising 0.1 to 20% by weight of a surface-active substance or a mixture of surface-active substances.

Claim 36 (Currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition containing at least one branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin, or hydrogenated branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin, characterized in that wherein the side chains, at one branch point at least, are ethyl, propyl or longer branched alkyl chains, the said branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin being obtainable obtained by oligomerization of at least one of:

- a) at least one branched  $\alpha$ -olefin containing 5 to 18 carbon atoms, or
- b) ~~at least one linear  $\alpha$ -olefin containing 4 to 10 carbon atoms,~~
- [[c]]b) a mixture of a branched  $\alpha$ -olefin containing 4 to 18 carbon atoms and a linear  $\alpha$ -olefin containing 3 to 18 carbon atoms, and or
- [[d]]c) a mixture of various branched  $\alpha$ -olefins containing 4 to 18 carbon atoms and linear  $\alpha$ -olefins containing 3 to 18 carbon atoms,

in the presence of a catalyst selected from the group consisting of organic acids, cationic ion exchangers, silica gels, layer silicates, inorganic acids [[or]] and Lewis-acid-based catalysts,

wherein said branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin or hydrogenated branched oligo- $\alpha$ -olefin is incorporated in a pharmaceutical composition.